(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing

or Before Mailing of First Office Action [6-3] -- Page 1 of 2)

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 CFR 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the filing is defined in 37 CFR 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by S 1.41." 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filling of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 CFR 1.97(b)(2).

## IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

- NOTE: NO CERTIFICATION OR FEE IS DUE WHEN THE FILING IS MADE WITHIN THE ABOVE TIME PERIOD. IT IS ADVISABLE TO ENSURE THAT NO OFFICE ACTION HAS BEEN MAILED IF THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IS DELAYED UNTIL AFTER THREE MONTHS FROM FILING.
- NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 CFR 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 CFR 1.10. An Office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- NOTE: "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 CFR 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 CFR 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A PETITION FOR SUSPENSION OF ACTION TO ALLOW APPLICANT TIME TO SUBMIT AN INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WILL BE DENIED AS FAILING TO PRESENT GOOD AND SUFFICIENT REASONS, SINCE 37 CFR 1.97 PROVIDES ADEQUATE RECOURSE FOR THE TIMELY SUBMISSION OF PRIOR ART FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE EXAMINER." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).

| Date 7-//-0/             | SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY/AGENT                          |
|--------------------------|--|
| Reg. No.: 44,497         | Charles W. Agnew                                     |
| Tel. No.: (812) 330-1824 | (Type or print name of attorney/agent) P.O. Box 2269 |
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|                          | Bloomington, IN 47402-2269                           |

| Attorney's Docket No   | o. <u>PA-5213-CIP</u>   |  | PATENT                                      |
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| of   | JOIL 1  | 4  |   |
| for  | CATENT & TRADER   | (Inventor(s))  |   |
| <u> </u>   |   | (Title of invention)   |   |
| the specification of wh  | nich is being transmitte  | ed herewith  |   |
|  |   | OR   |   |
| In re application of:  | Pavcnik et al.  | Customer No.: 9896   |   |
| Serial No.: 09/777,09  |   | Group No.: 3738  | ECEIVEL<br>JUL 1 9 2001<br>OLOGY CENTER R37 |
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|  |   | patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with<br>rial to patentability as defined in this section.* 37 CFR 1.56(a). | the Office, which includes a duty to        |
|  |   | ITION OF A PATENT APPLICATION WITHIN THE MEANING OF T  | HIS SECTION ARE:                            |
| (3) every other person who is  | no prepares or prosecutes the applic  | ration or prosecution of the application and who is associated with th   | e inventor, with the assignee or with       |
| NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance | 1.56 will be met so long as the inform<br>e of the patent." Notice of January 9 | mation in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office of 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.                                       | in the manner prescribed by §§              |
|  | CERTIFICAT  | ION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a) and 1.10   |   |
| I hereby certify that, on the  | date shown below, this cor  | rrespondence is being:   |   |
|  |   | MAILING  |   |
| [x] deposited with the Un<br>Trademarks, Washing                       |   | in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commis   | sioner of Patents and                       |
| 37 CFI   | ₹ 1.8(a)  | 37 CFR 1.10  |   |
| [x] with sufficient po   | stage as first class mail.  | [ ] as "Express Mail Post Office to A Mailing Label No.  | ddressee",                                  |
|  |   | TRANSMISSION   |   |
| [ ] transmitted by facsimi   | le to the Patent and Trade  | mark Office.  Signature  | uraol                                       |

Pamm Garwood
(Type or print name of person certifying)

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1] -- Page 1\_ of 6\_)

### List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(Check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

| 1. [X]  | Preliminary Statements   |
|---------|--|
| 2. [X]  | Form PTO-1449 (Modified)   |
| 3. [ ]  | Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications   |
| 4. [ ]  | Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted |
| 5. [ ]  | Cumulative Patents or Publications   |
| 6. [X]  | Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement   |
| 7. [ ]  | Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items   |
|         | 7A. [ ] EPO Search Report  |
|         | 7B. [ ] English Language Version of EPO Search Report  |
| 8. [ ]  | Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents   |
| 9. [ ]  | Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)  |
| 10. [X] | Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement   |
|         |  |
|         |  |
|         | (Complete the following, if appropriate)   |
| Section | s , respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).  |
|         |  |

NOTE: "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20,

1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1] -- Page 2 of 6 )

#### Section 1. Preliminary statements



Applicants submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

RECEIVED

(Information Disclosure Statement -- Section 1. Preliminary Statements [6-1] -- Page 3 of 6

#### Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement Section 6.

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under S 1.97 shall include: "A legible copy of: (1) Each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) All other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, except that no copy of a U.S. patent application need be included ... '

NOTE: The wording in S 1.98(a)(2)(iii) makes it clear that the requirement to submit a copy of each item of information listed in an

copies of all items listed in Form PTO-1449 accompany this information statement.

(Complete the following, if applicable)

| ] | EXC | Exception(s) to above:  |  |  |
|---|-----|---|--|--|
|   | []  | Items in prior application from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4. |  |  |
|   | []  | Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.   |  |  |

(Information Disclosure Statement -- Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement [6-1] -- Page 5 of 6 )

# Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

| The persor  | n making this statement is:                                    |   |
|---|--|---|
|   | (Check each applicable   | item (a) and (b))                                       |
| (a) [ ]   | the inventor(s) who signs below.                               |   |
|   |  | SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR                                   |
|   |  | (Type or print name of inventor)                        |
| (b) [ ] an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 CFR 1.56 |  | osecution of this application (37 CFR 1.56(c)).         |
|   |  | SIGNATURE OF ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUAL                      |
|   |  | (Type or print name of individual)                      |
| (c) [X]   | the attorney who signs below on the basis of                   | the information:  |
|   | (check each applic   | cable item)   |
|   | [ ] supplied by the inventor(s).                               |   |
|   | [ ] supplied by an individual associated with (37 CFR 1.56(c)) | the filing and prosecution of this application.         |
|   | [X] in the attorney's file.                                    |   |
| Date:   | 7-11-01  | SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY/AGENT                             |
| Reg. No.:   | 44,497   | Charles W. Agnew (Type or print name of attorney/agent) |
| Tel. No.:   | (812) 330-1824   | P.O. Box 2269 P.O. Address                              |
|   |  | Bloomington, IN 47402-2269                              |

(Information Disclosure Statement -- Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement [6-1] -- Page <u>6</u> of <u>6</u>)